

years hunted in the neighbourhood of Canoe River, Cranberry & Moose Lake New Caledonia and the North branch of Thompson's River; they had a good many Skins and were on their way to M^r Laroque's Establishment for the purpose of trade; they had numerous families & their women of the Carrier tribe natives of New Caledonia.

These Iroquois informed me that the Canoe River which falls into the Columbia about a mile below this encampment is navigable by half sized or Soteoux Canoes to its Sources in the Mountain from whence two small portages can be made to Cranberry Lake which is the head Water of Frazer's River and by that route Fort George, New Caledonia is not exceeding Ten Days march from hence this information does not answer any good end as regards the trade of that Dep^t but shows that the distance between New Caledonia and the Athabasca River is very inconsiderable and led to further enquiries the information derived from which induces me to think that great advantages would arise from changing the route now pursued by the New

